GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:171
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
Use of UAVs
Misra Shri Ajay (Teni)

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the potential of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in the Civil Aviation sector, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has permitted/proposes to permit the use of UAVs for non-military purposes in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the guidelines issued in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government has evaluated the safety and security concern before granting permission and if so, the details thereof and the findings thereof?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 171 for 10.12.2015 regarding "Use of UAVs".

(a) and (b) In the backdrop of various potential uses of UAVs, requests have been received for using them in aerial photography, crops spraying in fields, medical supplies, traffic monitoring, etc., though, no specific assessment of potential usage of these has been done. However, considering the concerns of safety and security associated with use of UAVs, Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has currently restricted civil use of drones b non-Government agencies, organizations and individuals vide public notice dated 07.10.2014. This is available in DGCA"s website (www.dgca.nic.in). However, use of UAVs by Government organizations has not been restricted by this public notice.

(c) There are no regulations for UAVs as of now. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is yet to issue Standards And Recommended Practices (SARPs) for the certification and operation of civil UAVs. However, any regulations for UAVs will fully take care of safety and security needs.